



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET/CONTROL-U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 2 -

25X1

6. Exceptions in the quantities of purchases are made for certain privileged persons. A strong laborer receives the TFR (hard physical work) coupon, enabling him to purchase 800 grams of bread per day and 400 grams of meat per week; laborers and government officials of the second and third categories receive the FR (physical work) coupon which gives 600 grams of bread daily and 300 grams of meat weekly; the regular H coupon entitles the other categories to 400 grams of bread per day and 200 grams of meat per week. The price of 800 grams of bread is 30 levas with coupons and 80 levas without coupons. Priority in the distribution and purchase of many commodities is established according to categories, beginning with the first.
7. The black market exists in two forms, official and unofficial. There are official state stores where without coupons one can buy, at high prices, such things as bread, textiles, clothing, shoes, butter, eggs, fats, olive oil, and blankets. These stores supply principally members of the fifth category, who have no ration coupons, and farmers, who buy mainly textiles and bread, because the authorities do not allow them to retain sufficient wheat for their needs. The unofficial black market is used by everyone for buying and selling. The farmers sell their products at free prices, but they must possess a certificate indicating that they have made their required contribution of produce to the village authorities.
8. The following articles are not available, either legally or on the black market: oranges, lemons, olives, and rare medicines, such as penicillin. The shortage of medical supplies is particularly acute, to the point that such supplies received from outside the country are requisitioned by the authorities and not delivered to the recipient unless he actually needs them.
9. No one in Bulgaria is allowed to possess or carry firearms, including hunting guns, except those having special authorization from the militia. The right to hunt is enjoyed only by members of the hunting associations; fishing is restricted to members of the fishing cooperatives.
10. There has been no public persecution of the priests and generally the priests refrain from criticizing injustices and irregularities in the government. The churches are well attended, but the absence of younger people is noticeable, probably because of fear as much as conviction. In addition to the Protestant ministers arrested and sentenced last year, there are a very few Orthodox priests in the concentration camps. The government appears to be avoiding a public and serious battle with the Church because of the religious nature of the people.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET/CONTROL-U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY